

Message Text

SECRET

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51

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W
----- 126680

R 270418Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

S E C R E T PHNOM PENH 5541

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, CB, TH

SUBJ: CAMBOIDAN RESUPPLY FLIGHTS FROM THAILAND

REF: A) STATE 068434

B) PARIS 07622

1. WE HAVE SOME MISGIVINGS ABOUT SUGGESTION IN REFTEL (A).
THE GKR AMBASSADOR TO BANGKOK RECENTLY DIED, AND AN APPROACH OF
THE SORT SUGGESTED BY THE DEPARTMENT WOULD REQUIRE THE
SENDING OF A RANKING KHMER OFFICIAL TO BANGKOK. THERE HE WOULD
PRESUMABLY CALL UPON THE THAI FOREIGN MINISTER WHO, FROM SUCH
EVIDENCE AS WE HAVE SEEN, IS THE PRINCIPAL OPPONENT WITHIN THE
RTG OF OUR AIRLIFT, AT LEAST IN ITS PRESENT FORM. SUCH A VISIT
MIGHT GIVE THE THAI FOREIGN MINISTER AN OPENING TO RAISE THE
QUESTION AGAIN IN PUBLIC BY ALLOWING THE PRESS TO LEARN THAT
HE HAD RECEIVED AN APPROACH FROM THE GKR ON THE
AIRLIFT QUESTION.

2. NEVERTHELESS, IF THE DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY
BANGKOK BELIEVE SUCH A VISIT MIGHT BE HELPFUL, WE
HAVE LEARNED FROM REF (B) THAT FOREIGN MINISTER KEUKY
LIM WILL DEPART PARIS FOR PHNOM PENH ON MARCH 30. HE
COULD BE CONTACTED BY EMBASSY PARIS WITH SUGGESTION
FOR A BANGKOK STOPOVER IF AND AS THE DEPARTMENT DEEMS
DESIRABLE.

DEAN

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NNN

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